

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A tamper evident closure, comprising:
 - a body portion comprising a base and an internally threaded downwardly depending sidewall portion; and
 - a tamper evident band frangibly connected to said sidewall portion, said tamper evident band comprising:
 - a main band portion, and
 - a J-hook retention member that includes a plurality of separate pleated retaining elements with a pleated shape on their inside and their outside, wherein at least one pleat is folded perpendicular to the lower rim of said sidewall portion, and wherein at least one of the pleated retaining elements has on its inside and on its outside at least one inwardly directed fold and at least one outwardly directed fold, and
 - wherein each of said retaining elements has an upper portion that is constructed and arranged to engage retention structure of a container in order to prevent upward movement of said tamper evident band with respect to the container, and wherein at least one of the pleated retaining elements is further constructed and arranged to engage the container so as to resist rotation with respect to the container, whereby separation of said tamper evident band from said body portion is better assured when the closure is unscrewed from the container.
2. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 1, wherein said at least one pleated retaining element is constructed and arranged to engage rotational locking structure that is defined on the container.
3. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 2, wherein said at least one pleated retaining element comprises a leading edge that is shaped so as to permit said retaining element to pass over said rotational locking structure when said closure is first screwed onto the container.

4. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 3, wherein said at least one pleated retaining element further comprises a trailing edge that is shaped so as to firmly engage said rotational locking structure when said closure is being unscrewed from the container.

5. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 4, wherein said trailing edge is positioned radially inwardly with respect to said leading edge.

6. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 4, wherein said trailing edge has an abutment surface defined thereon, said abutment surface being substantially parallel to a radius of said closure.

7. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 3, wherein said leading edge is shaped so as to define a ramp that is constructed and arranged to guide over the rotational locking structure of the container.

8. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 1, wherein said J-hook retention member comprises at least four of said pleated retaining elements.

9. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 1, wherein said entire closure is unitarily molded from a plastic material.

10. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 9, wherein said plastic material comprises high-density polyethylene.

11. (Currently amended) A container assembly, comprising:

a container having an externally threaded finish portion, said finish portion including retention structure for retaining a tamper evident band;

a closure comprising a body portion having a base and an internally threaded downwardly depending sidewall portion, said closure further comprising a tamper evident band

that is frangibly connected to said sidewall portion, and wherein said tamper evident band includes:

a main band portion, and

a J-hook retention member that includes a plurality of separate pleated retaining elements with a pleated shape on their inside and their outside, wherein at least one pleat is folded perpendicular to the lower rim of said sidewall portion, and wherein at least one of the pleated retaining elements has on its inside and on its outside at least one inwardly directed fold and at least one outwardly directed fold, and wherein

each of said retaining elements has an upper portion that is constructed and arranged to engage said retention structure in order to prevent upward movement of said tamper evident band with respect to said container, and wherein at least one of the pleated retaining elements is further constructed and arranged to engage said container so as to resist rotation with respect to the container, whereby separation of said tamper evident band from said body portion is better assured when the closure is unscrewed from the container.

12. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 11, further comprising rotational locking structure on said container, and wherein said at least one pleated retaining element is constructed and arranged to engage said rotational locking structure so as to preclude rotation of said closure with respect to said container in at least one direction.

13. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 12, wherein said at least one pleated retaining element comprises a leading edge that is shaped so as to permit said retaining element to pass over said rotational locking structure when said closure is first screwed onto the container.

14. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 13, wherein said at least one pleated retaining element further comprises a trailing edge that is shaped so as to firmly engage said rotational locking structure when said closure is being unscrewed from the container.

15. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 14, wherein said trailing edge is positioned radially inwardly with respect to said leading edge.
16. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 14, wherein said trailing edge has an abutment surface defined thereon, said abutment surface being substantially parallel to a radius of said closure.
17. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 13, wherein said leading edge is shaped so as to define a ramp that is constructed and arranged to guide over the rotational locking structure of the container.
18. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 11, wherein said J-hook retention member comprises at least four of said pleated retaining elements.
19. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 11, wherein said entire closure is unitarily molded from a plastic material.
20. (Original) A tamper evident closure according to claim 9, wherein said plastic material comprises high-density polyethylene.
21. (Currently amended) A tamper evident closure, comprising:
 - a body portion comprising a base and an internally threaded downwardly depending sidewall portion; and
 - a tamper evident band frangibly connected to said sidewall portion, said tamper evident band comprising:
 - a main band portion, and
 - a J-hook retention member that includes a plurality of separate pleated retaining elements with a pleated shape on their inside and their outside, wherein at least one pleat is folded perpendicular to the lower rim of said sidewall portion, and wherein

each of said retaining elements has an upper portion that is constructed and arranged to engage retention structure of a container in order to prevent upward movement of said tamper evident band with respect to the container, and wherein at least one of the pleated retaining elements has on its inside and its outside at least one inwardly directed fold, at least one outwardly directed fold and a trailing edge that is constructed and arranged to engage the container so as to resist rotation with respect to the container, whereby separation of said tamper evident band from said body portion is better assured when the closure is unscrewed from the container.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) A tamper evident closure, comprising:

a body portion comprising a base and an internally threaded downwardly depending sidewall portion; and

a tamper evident band frangibly connected to said sidewall portion, said tamper evident band comprising:

a main band portion, and

a J-hook retention member that includes a plurality of separate pleated retaining elements with a pleated shape on their inside and their outside, wherein at least one pleat is folded perpendicular to the lower rim of said sidewall portion, and wherein at least one of the pleated retaining elements has on its inside and on its outside at least one inwardly directed fold and at least one outwardly directed fold and

wherein each of said retaining elements has an upper portion that is constructed and arranged to engage retention structure of a container in order to prevent upward movement of said tamper evident band with respect to the container, and wherein a part of the pleated retaining elements is further constructed and arranged to engage the container so as to resist rotation with respect to the container, whereby separation of said tamper evident band from said body portion is better assured when the closure is unscrewed from the container.